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PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR THE
WORLD CONFERENCE ON NATURAL
DISASTER REDUCTION
Geneva, 14-18 March 1994
Agenda item 5

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE

Draft report

Rapporteur: Mr. Klaus E.P. HOLDERBAUM (Germany)

I. ORGANIZATION OF THE SESSION

A. Opening and duration of the session

1. The Preparatory Committee held its first session at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, from 14 to 18 March 1994. The Preparatory Committee held ... meetings (1st to ...). The Preparatory Committee decided to establish two working groups, which held a number of informal meetings.

2. The session was opened by the Director of the secretariat of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, Department of Humanitarian Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat.

B. Attendance

3. The following States were represented: [To be completed]

4. The following United Nations programmes were represented: United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR).

5. The following specialized agencies were represented: United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), World Health Organization (WHO) and World Meteorological Organization (WMO).

6. The International Civil Defence Organization, an intergovernmental organization, was represented.

7. The World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA), a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, category I, was represented.

8. The National Committees of the International Decade on Natural Disaster Reduction from China and Switzerland were represented.

9. The city of Yokohama was represented by Observers.

C. Election of officers

10. At the 1st meeting, on 14 March, the Preparatory Committee elected H.E. Ambassador Daniel D.C. Don Nanjira, Permanent Representative of Kenya to the United Nations Office at Geneva, Chairman of the Preparatory Committee by acclamation.

11. After his election, the Chairman made a statement.

12. At the same meeting, the Preparatory Committee elected by acclamation Colombia and the Philippines (Vice-Chairmen) as well as Japan (Vice-Chairman ex-officio), and Mr. Klaus E.P. Holderbaum (Germany) Rapporteur. The Committee decided to postpone the election of a Vice-Chairman from among the Eastern European States to a later date.

D. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

13. At its 1st meeting, on 14 March, the Preparatory Committee adopted the provisional agenda contained in document A/CONF.172/PC/1, which read as follows:

1. Election of Officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Preparations for the World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction.
4. Accreditation of non-governmental organizations for participation in the Conference.
5. Adoption of the report of the Preparatory Committee.

14. At the same meeting, the Preparatory Committee approved its organization of work as announced by the Chairman.

E. Documentation

15. The documents before the Preparatory Committee will be listed in an annex to the final report.

II. PREPARATIONS FOR THE WORLD CONFERENCE ON NATURAL DISASTER REDUCTION

16. The Preparatory Committee considered agenda item 3 at its 1st to ... meetings, on 14 and ... March 1994. It had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on preparations for the Conference (A/CONF.172/PC/2);

(b) Note by the Secretariat containing the draft provisional rules of procedure of the Conference (A/CONF.172/PC/L.1);

(c) Note by the Secretariat containing the draft provisional agenda and the proposed programme of work for the Conference (A/CONF.172/PC/L.4 and Add.1).

17. At the 1st meeting, on 14 March, the Director of the secretariat of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction made an introductory statement.

18. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Japan, Germany, Nepal, Italy, Nigeria, the United Republic of Tanzania and Tunisia.

19. At the same meeting, statements were made by the observers from the city of Yokohama, Japan.

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